

In the claims:

1 1. In a data communication device operable in a communication system to
2 communicate data pursuant to a packet communication service, an improvement of apparatus
3 for embedding control information into individual packets of the data communicated pursuant
4 to the communication service, said apparatus comprising:
5 a formatter adapted to receive indications representative of the data to be
6 communicated pursuant to the packet communication service, said formatter for formatting
7 the indications into the individual packets, each of at least selected ones of the individual
8 packets formatted to include a control field that is populated with values that identify session
9 control information, used in control of effectuation of the packet communication service.

1 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the individual packets into which the control
2 information is embedded comprise RTP-formatted packets, and wherein said formatter
3 formats RTP-formatted packets to include the control field.

1 3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein each of the selected ones of the RTP-
2 formatted packets comprise a header part and a header extension part and wherein the control
3 field is embodied at the header extension part.

1 4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein each of the header parts of the RTP-
2 formatted packets includes an indication field to indicate presence of the header extension part
3 and wherein said formatter further populates the indication field to indicate the presence of
4 the header extension part.

1 5. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the header extension part comprises a first
2 portion and at least a second portion, the first portion comprising the control field and wherein
3 said formatter populates the first portion of the header extension part with values of the
4 control information.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the control field is selectably populated with
2 first values, the first values indicating remaining portions of the header extension part to be
3 non-packet-communication-service, control-information related.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the control field is selectably populated with
2 second values, the second values indicative of delay of communication of subsequent data
3 packets communicated pursuant to the packet communication service.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the control field is selectably populated with
2 third values, the third values indicative of termination of communication of subsequent data
3 packets pursuant to the packet communication service.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the control field is selectably populated with
2 fourth values, the fourth values indicating the data of the data packet associated therewith to
3 be application-dependent.

1
2 10. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the control field embodied at the header
3 extension part includes a first section of a three-bit length.

1 11. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the control field embodied at the header
2 extension part further includes a second section of a seventeen-bit length.
3

 12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the first section comprises an INFO field
and wherein the section comprises a defined-by-profile field.

1
2 13. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the first section and the second section are
3 separated by at least a first bit forming a padding field.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the control field embodied at the header
2 extension part further includes a third section, the third section populated with values when
3 the first section is of selected values.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the packet communication service comprises
2 a real time communication service and wherein the control field that said formatter formats
3 each of the at least selected ones of the individual packets to include comprises pause
4 information associated with subsequently-transmitted ones of the individual packets.

1 16. In a method of communicating in a data communication system having a data
2 communication device for communicating data pursuant to a packet communication service,
3 an improvement of a method for embedding control information into individual packets of the
4 data pursuant to the packet communication service, said method comprising:

5 obtaining indications representative of the data to be communicated pursuant
6 to the packet communication service; and

7 formatting the indications into the individual packets, each of at least selected
8 ones of the individual packets formatted to include a control field that is populated with
9 values that identify session control information used in control of the packet communication
10 service.

1 17. The method of claim 16 wherein the individual packets into which the control
2 information is formatted during said operation of formatting to include comprise RTP (Real
3 Time Protocol) packets.

1 18. The method of claim 17 wherein each of the selected ones of the RTP-
2 formatted packets comprise a header part and a header extension part and wherein the control
3 information formatted during said operation of formatting is formatted into the header
4 extension part.

1 19. The method of claim 16 wherein the packet communication service comprises
2 a real time communication service and wherein the control field into which each of the at least
3 the selected ones of the individual packets is formatted to include comprises pause
4 information associated with subsequently transmitted ones of the individual packets.

1 20. The method of claim 16 further comprising the operations of:
2 sending the individual packets to a data receiving device;

- 3 detecting, at the data receiving device, the individual packets; and
- 4 extracting the control information therefrom.